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**PRESS RELEASE**

**BRIDGEVILLE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO  
RECEIPT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Clinton L. Emerson, age 44, of Bridgeville, Delaware, pled guilty yesterday to receipt of child pornography, in violation of federal law. David C. Weiss, Acting United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, announced the guilty plea following a hearing in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware.

Emerson, who will be sentenced on September 22, 2009 by Chief United States District Judge Gregory M. Sleet, faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum sentence of twenty years in prison. Emerson also faces a term of supervised release following his prison sentence of five years to life, and will be required to register as a sex offender in any jurisdiction in which he lives, works, or attends school. Emerson will remain detained pending sentencing.

According to statements made at yesterday's hearing and documents filed in court, Emerson came to the attention of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement after agents recovered evidence which revealed that Emerson had traded child pornography with another man located in Tennessee. Law enforcement agents executed a search of Emerson's Bridgeville residence on January 28, 2009. They recovered computers that contained over 3,800 images of child pornography. The collection depicted children from infancy to age 12 engaged

in various sex acts with adult males. An examination of the computers also confirmed that Emerson downloaded the image files between March 2006 and October 2008, and last accessed some of the files on January 25, 2009 – three days before the search of his residence and his arrest.

During an interview with law enforcement agents, Emerson admitted that he used a computer application known as “Google Hello” to receive images of children engaged in sexual acts. He estimated that he had been collecting child pornography for several years, and stated that his fantasy was an adult having sex with a female child.

Following the plea hearing, Acting United States Attorney David C. Weiss stated, “Prolific traders of hardcore child pornography like Mr. Emerson should expect that they will come to the attention of law enforcement agencies. Once identified, they will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.”

This case was investigated by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the High Technology Crimes Unit of the Delaware State Police. For further information, please contact Assistant United States Attorney Edward J. McAndrew at 302-573-6277, ext. 130.